

# Wild Rails Project

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The Wild Rails biodiversity project is run by the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership which covers Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull.

It is a FREE education programme, primarily aimed for schools, to help students learn about improving biodiversity at stations through a variety of FREE curriculum based activities and trips.

Partnered with Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, learning was really brought to life through interactive games and experiencing the natural world.



The Wild Rails project has been connecting with schools along the line between Leamington Spa and Birmingham Moor Street. Schools within approximately a mile of their local station has been the norm for our pilot year, although we are widening that criteria to education groups such as eco-clubs and scouting troops.

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Sessions have included a variety of topics such as *Understanding Eco-Systems*, conducting Bio-blitz wildlife surveys and researching and planning a biodiversity installation at the stations.

In addition to this we have run cyanotype nature inspired art workshops to produce a collage poster style art for their local stations (see separate art case study) and have planned biodiversity themed reward trips for the students this summer to Birmingham Botanical Gardens.





# Insects Check in to Lapworth Bug Hotel

Spring saw the arrival of a large Bug Hotel at Lapworth Station which was the culmination of many months of work with Lapworth Primary. Not to forget all our fabulous partners including Network Rail for the community leased land, EH Smith Builders Merchants for the generous donation of volunteers and materials, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust for their learning support. Lapworth Station Adopters were also fundamental in preparing the land and sharing our vision.

The community leased land the bug hotel sits on is adjacent to Lapworth station, which meant we could be much more ambitious in our design and installation.

## Quotes from Lapworth Primary students:

**'We all collaborated and have helped build something that is part of our legacy to Lapworth'- Eva**

**'We loved using the bee bricks especially to enhance the habitat for the insects- it was a really meaningful piece of learning!'- Hannah**





# Scores on the board from the students

We have been very fortunate to work with two excellent and enthusiastic students groups from Lapworth Primary for Lapworth station and Campion Secondary eco-club for Leamington Spa station.



of students surveyed rated the Wild Rails activities between 7-10 out of 10, with 10 being the the highest score



## How to get involved?

**Are you a teacher, eco-club coordinator or scout's leader?**

**Are your students interested in biodiversity and making an impact in their community?**

**Everything on our programme is completely free so why not drop us a message so we can discuss how we can help you at**

**[heartcrp@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:heartcrp@warwickshire.gov.uk)**

For more info about what other activities we offer follow us on our socials below



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